

Color Finesse 3

Affordable Desktop Color Grading Software

Color Finesse® 3 is the latest incarnation of the color correction software that has become the desktop standard, with grading suite-style color correction that fits your workflow rather than imposing a new one.

Color Finesse 3 gives you the high-end color correction and enhancement tools you need both as a plug-in for your favorite application—including After Effects, Final Cut Pro, and Premiere Pro—and as a standalone application. Because the standalone Color Finesse is not limited by restrictions imposed by a host application, it offers improved workflow, video handling, and project management.

Color Finesse 3 is cross-platform and works on systems from laptops to multiple-processor workstations without the need for specific video cards or multiple monitors. Settings move smoothly from plug-in to standalone so you can work the way you want to.

Color Finesse gives you full creative control over the color, mood, and look of your images quickly, easily, and accurately. The difference is visible when you use the best tool for the job.

As a Plug-in - Above and Beyond Built-in Color Correction

The Color Finesse 3 PI plug-in works directly in After Effects, Final Cut Pro, Premiere Pro, and other hosts. You get simple access to color correction directly in the host application as well as via the specialized Color Finesse user interface.

Most video editing software now has its own built-in color correction, but it's often limited in capability, accuracy, and performance. Often you'll need to combine several color correction filters to perform even simple correction. Each filter you add increases rounding error and image degradation. Color Finesse does all its color correction operations without needing to constantly convert formats and round, reducing errors and creating a pristine image.

Color Finesse offers more correction tools—including secondary color correction and both RGB and HSL curves—than are found in most built-in color correctors.

Three-point color correction is a powerful tool, but not when you're stuck with fixed definitions of what a highlight, midtone, and shadow is. Those definitions need to change from scene to scene, so Color Finesse gives you a simple tool to let you decide on the definitions, making three-point correction more intuitive and more effective.

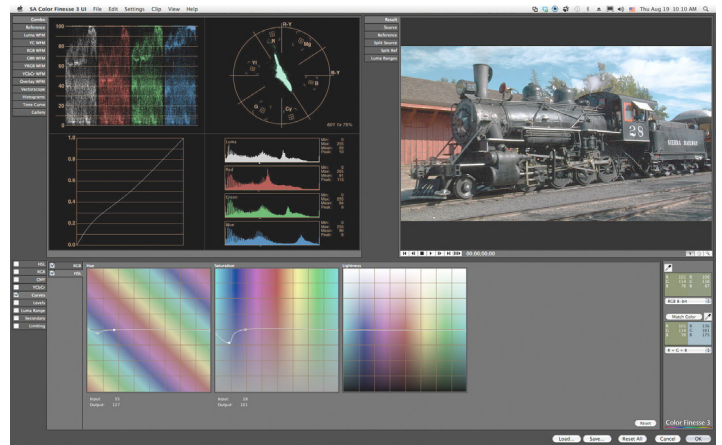
And Color Finesse is a true 32-bit floating point color corrector, not just "floating point capable" and not in only a few correction tools.

As a Standalone Application - Color Correction Without Limits

The Color Finesse 3 standalone application focuses on just one thing: being the best color correction tool possible. Create your own projects or import one from Final Cut Pro via XML. Perform your color correction and output your final footage, or export it back to Final Cut.

Color Finesse 3 plays well with others. It handles QuickTime movies as well as image sequences. It supports image types from JPEG to BMP to TIFF to Targa to Cineon to DPX. It can import and export settings in ASC CDL, Photoshop, Autodesk/Discreet, and Quantel formats. And it can preview footage via video cards from AJA, Blackmagic, and others.

Color Finesse 3 HD+ handles footage of all sizes, from standard-def to HD to film.



Plug-in or Application - Your Choice

Color Finesse 3 is available both as a plug-in and as a standalone application, letting you choose the way you want to do color correction. The four flavors of Color Finesse are:

Color Finesse 3 PI – The Color Finesse 3 plug-in. An After Effects-compatible plug-in, it also works in Premiere Pro. An FxPlug version is supplied for compatibility with Final Cut Pro. The PI plug-in is resolution independent, easily handling SD, HD, and 2K/4K film resolutions.

Color Finesse 3 LE – The “Limited Edition” plug-in. It has the same features as Color Finesse 3 PI, except that it works only in After Effects CS3, CS4, and CS5. Available only as an upgrade from the Color Finesse plug-in bundled with After Effects versions 6.5 through CS5. The LE plug-in is resolution independent.

Color Finesse 3 HD+ – The Color Finesse 3 standalone application for Macintosh. It is resolution-independent, handling imagery from standard def to HD to 2K/4K film. Color Finesse 3 HD+ also includes Color Finesse 3 PI so that you have access to both the plug-in and the application.

New Color Correction Controls

Color Finesse 3 introduces a number of new color correction controls. Auto-Color and Auto-Exposure buttons give you a one-click way to start the grading session. The Vibrance slider gives you more fine-tuned control over color saturation. HSL curves give you the ability to adjust saturation and lightness based on hue. And the Highlight Recovery tool provides a visually-pleasing way to recover overbright areas on an image which would otherwise be clipped.

Hardware Control Surfaces

There's nothing like the tactile feedback of a hardware control surface to speed the task of grading. Color Finesse 3 supports our own Colorociter Colorist's Workstation surface, as well as the Tangent Wave control surface. Both provide full access to the color correction functions of Color Finesse.

System Requirements

- Intel-based Macintosh system running Mac OS X 10.5.3 or later, or 10.6 (Snow Leopard) or later. Color Finesse 3 is a universal binary application.
- Intel or compatible processor running Microsoft® Windows® XP with Service Pack 2, Windows Vista; or Windows 7 32/64.
- Monitor with minimum 1024x768 resolution, and 32-bit video.
- For external previewing, on Macintosh FireWire/DV, AJA, and Blackmagic Design cards are supported. On Windows, Blackmagic Design cards, NVIDIA Quadro cards with HD-SDI output option, and Cineform Prospect HD are supported.
- Plug-in version requires Adobe After Effects CS3 or later (including CS5), Adobe Premiere Pro CS4/CS5, or Apple Final Cut Pro.

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Highlights

- Available as plug-in or standalone application.
- Standalone version exchanges projects with Final Cut Pro.
- Uses 32-bit floating-point color space for incredible resolution and latitude.
- User configurable control over shadows, midtones, and highlights, as well as overall correction.
- Performs corrections in HSL, RGB, CMY, and YC_sC_r color spaces.
- Auto-Color and Auto-Exposure buttons give you a one-click way to start your grading session.
- Automatic color matching and black, white, and gray balancing.
- Custom RGB and HSL correction curves.
- Six channel secondary color correction for isolating and correcting individual color vectors.
- Vibrance control gives you subtle control over image saturation.
- Save and recall up to 8 QuickGrades™ at the touch of a single key.
- Standalone version includes linking of clips for simultaneous correction, and cut/paste of grades between clips.
- Reference images and split-screen wipe facilitate accurate color grading and matching.
- Smart chroma and luma limiting ensures that even extreme color changes stay within "legal" limits without harsh clipping.
- Waveform monitor, vectorscope, histogram, and correction curve displays give full visibility into the correction process.
- Resolution independent to work with NTSC, PAL, HDTV, and film.
- The plug-in's simplified interface gives you access to the most commonly used color correction controls directly in the host application.
- Scrub through the clip you're correcting and preview your work with realtime playback.
- Preview lookup tables (LUTs) allow for accurate previewing.
- Includes more than 500 presets, including film looks and emulation of lighting gels from Rosco, Lee, and GamColor.
- Supports Tangent Wave and Colorociter Colorist's Workstation control surfaces for tactile hardware feedback.
- Includes complete User's Guide in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format.